

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete, marked up listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parentheses, underlined text indicating insertions, and strikethrough and/or double-bracketed text indicating deletions.

Listing of the Claims

1- 23. (Cancelled).

24. (Currently Amended) A DNA fragment for causing a cell to produce an arbitrary protein, said DNA fragment comprising:

cDNA of a virus vector that has been constructed by inserting a coding gene of an arbitrary protein into an RNA virus; ~~and~~

a ribozyme sequence ligated to the 3' end of the virus vector cDNA[.]; and
a gene that encodes a transcription factor for controlling transcription
induced by an inducible promoter that is located upstream of the virus vector
cDNA and the ribozyme sequence,

wherein:

the virus vector includes a tomato mosaic virus vector,

~~the virus vector originates in a plant virus that has a suppressor against a~~
~~silencing reaction of plants, and~~

the ribozyme sequence includes a ribozyme sequence of satellite tobacco
ringspot virus[.],

the cDNA of the virus vector in which the coding gene of an arbitrary
protein has been incorporated, and the ribozyme sequence ligated to the 3' end of
the virus vector cDNA are transcribed under control of the inducible promoter,
and

the transcription is controlled by (i) GVG, and (ii) 6XUASga14, which is a
promoter induced by activated GVG.

25-30. (Cancelled).

31. (Previously Presented) A DNA fragment as set forth in claim 24, wherein the coding gene of an arbitrary protein is inserted into a downstream side of a promoter of a gene that encodes a coat protein of the virus.

32-36. (Cancelled).

37. (Previously Presented) A vector, which includes the DNA fragment of claim 24, and has an ability to be incorporated in a cell genome.

38. (Cancelled).

39. (Previously Presented) A transforming kit, which comprises at least one of the DNA fragment of claim 24, and a vector including the DNA fragment of claim 24.

40. (Previously Presented) A transformant, which is obtained with use of at least one of (i) the DNA fragment of claim 24, (ii) a vector including the DNA fragment of claim 24, and (iii) a transforming kit including a vector including the DNA fragment of claim 24.

41- 45. (Cancelled).

46. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a ~~transformant~~plant culture cell for protein production, comprising:

a first transforming step of transfecting a ~~host~~plant culture cell with a transcription factor-expressing DNA fragment in which a coding gene of a transcription factor is ligated to a promoter for expressing the transcription factor;

a screening step of screening ~~transformants~~plant culture cells, obtained in the first transforming step, for an individual plant culture cell expressing the transcription factor; and

a second transforming step of transfecting the ~~transformant~~individual plant culture cell, obtained in the screening step, with a protein-expressing DNA

fragment in which cDNA of a virus vector that has been constructed by inserting a coding gene of an arbitrary protein into an RNA virus is ligated to an inducible promoter which is induced by the transcription factor,

wherein a ribozyme sequence is ligated to the 3' end of the virus vector cDNA.

47. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a ~~transformant~~plant culture cell for protein production as set forth in claim 46, wherein the transcription factor has a property of being activated by hormone.

48. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a ~~transformant~~plant culture cell for protein production as set forth in claim 47, wherein the hormone comprises estrogen or steroid hormone.

49. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a ~~transformant~~plant culture cell for protein production as set forth in claim 48, wherein LexA-VP16-hER is used as the transcription factor having a property of being activated by estrogen, and wherein O_{LexA}-46 is used as the inducible promoter.

50. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a ~~transformant~~plant culture cell for protein production as set forth in claim 46, wherein the virus vector originates in a virus that includes single strand (+) RNA.

51. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a ~~transformant~~plant culture cell for protein production as set forth in claim 50, wherein the virus vector originates in a plant virus.

52. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a ~~transformant~~plant culture cell for protein production as set forth in claim 51, wherein the virus vector originates in a plant virus that has a suppressor against a silencing reaction of plants.

53. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a ~~transformant~~plant culture cell for protein production as set forth in claim 52, wherein the virus vector originates in a tobamovirus.

54. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a ~~transformant~~plant culture cell for protein production as set forth in claim 53, wherein the virus vector comprises one of tomato mosaic virus vector and tobacco mosaic virus vector.

55. (Cancelled)

56. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a ~~transformant~~plant culture cell for protein production as set forth in claim 46, wherein the ribozyme sequence is one of (i) a ribozyme sequence of hepatitis delta virus, and (ii) a ribozyme sequence of satellite tobacco ringspot virus.

57. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a ~~transformant~~plant culture cell for protein production as set forth in claim 46, wherein the coding gene of an arbitrary protein is substituted with a gene that encodes a coat protein of the virus.

58. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a ~~transformant~~plant culture cell for protein production as set forth in claim 46, wherein the transcription factor-expressing DNA fragment and the protein-expressing DNA fragment are ~~transferred~~transfected by an Agrobacterium method.

59. (Cancelled).

60. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a ~~transformant~~plant culture cell for protein production as set forth in claim ~~[[59]]~~ 46, wherein the plant culture cells comprise tobacco cells.

61. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a ~~transformant~~plant culture cell for protein production as set forth in claim 60, wherein the tobacco cells comprise tobacco BY-2 cells.

62. (Currently Amended) A ~~transformant~~plant culture cell for protein production, which is produced by the process for producing a ~~transformant~~plant culture cell for protein production as set forth in claim 46.

63. (Currently Amended) A protein producing process, which uses the ~~transformant~~plant culture cell for protein production as set forth in claim 62.

64. (Currently Amended) A producing kit for performing the process for producing a ~~transformant~~plant culture cell for protein production as set forth in claim 46.

65. (Cancelled).